THE LOFTCUBE
Werner Aisslinger

Location: On any qualified roof top
Available for distribution starting September 2005

Type of Structure: Steel-extrusion frame
List of Materials
  Structure:
    Steel-extrusion frame
    Wooden Structure
    Honeycomb type wooden modules
    Bankirai Wood
  Facade:
    Plastic Sheets (Hostaglas)
    PMMA= Acrylic glass
    Macrolon elements
    Hahn-Louvre windows

Time it takes to assemble it on site : 2-4 days
People it takes to assemble : 2-3
Cost of Building : 70,000 Euros
Treasure of Sunlit Property

Young German architect Werner Aisslinger came up with the concept for his Loftcube in 2001. The flat roofs surrounding his studio in Berlin inspired him to design a structure that would be able to be placed on these rooftops in order to make use of this valuable property. He wanted to create a small structure that would suit people of nomadic lifestyles. They would have the choice to either take their Loftcube with them while moving around the globe or could rent one for a certain amount of time while they stayed in a specific location. It would provide an opportunity, for businessmen and women especially, to be able to live near their current jobs and be in the center of where the action is. While his design was mostly driven by the idea of altering the Berlin skyline and providing more spaces to live in, he was also focused on the economic possibilities it would provide for him. A major part of his concept was not just the design of one Loftcube, but the creation of entire rooftop communities of Loftcubes. His hopes were and still are that the Loftcube would become something that everyone would fall in love with and therefore would be the new, must have type of temporary housing.

An important part of Aisslinger’s design was to structurally make the Loftcube so that it could easily be assembled and disassembled. It is constructed of a 7.25m x 7.25m steel-extrusion frame that is covered with glass windows on the exterior. It is raised 1.2 m above ground on four inset tubular columns. The roofs as well as the floor are made of four individual frame units joined together. Eight corner columns support the roof and provide channels for mechanical and other technical installations. Two to three people can put the Loftcube together in two to four days. All the construction elements were restricted in size to allow them to be transported in containers. The glass panels are fixed to the structure by the use of quick-locking mechanisms and the frame is made out of aluminum in order to minimize weight to allow for easier transport by helicopter after the unit is assembled.

The interior of the Loftcube provides around 40 sq.m. of space. The layout consists of four major areas: a kitchen, a bathroom, a living room, and a bedroom. Wall panels and functioning wall panels separate these spaces. The functional panels are located between the bath and living area and the bath and kitchen area. They have water taps integrated in them that can be used from both adjacent areas. In order to make the Loftcube a livable space with running water, it has to be connected to utility lines through the roof to the building below. For health and safety reasons, it is also required in most places that a railing be installed on the rooftop. The client is given many options for interior finishes to allow him or her to create a personal space they can call home. The Loftcube is available for distribution starting in September 2005 and will cost between 65,000 and 75,000 euros. A Loftcube can be ordered online at www.loftcube.net or by contacting Aisslinger by mail.
Assembly Sequence

Step 1: Place Foundation Pieces
Step 2: Add Main Floor Framing (2x8s)
Step 3: Add Floor Joists in between main Floor Framing
Step 4: Add Plywood for Floor Material Support
Step 5: Add Steel Columns in corners
Step 6: Add Ceiling Framing Grid (2x8s)
Step 7: Add Plywood for Roofing material Support
Step 8: Add Tubular Steel Columns (vertical and horizontal) and Window panels
Bibliography

Website:

Magazine:

Magazine

Magazine:

Magazine: